The Collegian

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE

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Advertising Assistants; Linsy O. Sisemore, James Sullivan, Frank Smith.

Telephone, Lakeside 204. Publication Office, Saint Mary's College.

Address all business communications to

ALBERT WESTLAKE, Business Manager

TWENTY-FIRST YEAR

THOMAS J. KELLEY - - - Editor
CLAUDE T. SILVA - - Assistant Editor

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THE PRACTICAL RESULTS OF A SOUND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A Christian education, as understood in an institution like Saint Mary's, is an education that seeks to develop the three phases of the human being, the mental, the moral and the physical. Moreover, the system of training is so established to develop each of these in proportion to their importance, realizing all the while each is of a certain amount of importance.

In the first place the physical side of the average college student's education is pretty well taken care of by himself. The normal American youth, in whose veins the red blood of life courses, establishes for himself a system of training or athletic recreation that will insure him of a healthy body. With that as a foundation to work on, the educators naturally turn their attention to the other phases of his development.

The mental education, that which includes the instruction in the sciences, arts, and languages forms the next important division in the Christian educational system. Those who teach these secular subjects have the experience of ages to work on, they devote their lives to a study of the best methods and the most efficient systems of instilling a sound training, and they do it with the thoroughness of those who do their work for the love of doing it. And they do it well. But aside from the perfection attained through human effort they have a further advantage in that they are working within the sphere of light cast by the saving truths of Christianity.

This brings us to the last, and the most important part of the Christian educational system, the moral or religious training which is such a vital part of the human being. The arts and sciences are not taught solely as such, but are taught as such in the light of Christianity, with a view ever kept on the reason why man is here on the earth and what his last end is. That forms a part of the moral training. Then there is the actual religious training, the theory and practice of religion is taught by precept and example so well and so thoroughly that the student cannot fail to apprehend its importance. There is a period devoted to the actual teaching of religion, but the instruction in religion does not begin nor end with that period, it is continued throughout the entire day, indicating that among other things of even more importance, a practical adhesion to Catholic principles does not militate against success in the other less important things of life.

A LESSON IN PSYCHOLOGY FREE OF CHARGE

"Develop your will and be a success," so runs the glaring headline in the magazine advertisement. From a reading of such an advertisement the uninitiated might be lead to believe that at last here is the short cut to success. "I'll clip the coupon today, and next week I'll have the manager's job," says the meek little man. But when he gets the instructions perhaps he is a bit disappointed, there are a lot of suggestions that seem to have no bearing on his particular difficulties, and most disappointing of all he doesn't see anything that looks like a short cut.

This particular individual, is typical of a great many people who have failed to learn this important thing about life, or about anything that is worth while in life; there is no short cut. And anybody that tries to tell you there is, either free or for a consideration either knows not whereof he speaks or else is a pure and unvarnished liar. If a man wants to develop his will, he may clip the magazine advertisement if he so desires, most of them are founded on sound principals, but even they cannot do something for the individual which the individual will not do for himself. Education can only come from within, a man must learn things himself, the teachers can only show him the way and furnish him with an inspiration to seek the great truths of life. A man may gather about him all of the great books of the world, pile them up on the table before him and sit and gaze at their embossed backs for an hour and be no wiser at the end of that time than he was before. In order to learn he must work.

If a man wants to have a strong will the only rational thing to do is trot that will out, even as a race horse, and exercise it. The high strung race horse is trained for the Derby by regular and systematic daily exercise. So it is with our will, we must exercise it regularly and it must be exercised systematically. Perhaps the soundest advice ever given, and certainly the nearest approach to a short cut in the development of will power, is that which we find contained in the teachings of the Scholastics, do every day something that you do not want to do, and refrain every day from doing something that you want to do. That is the concentrated essence of good advice and if we regulate our system of life on that principal when the great temptation comes we will be able to say "no" and mean it.

AN INDICATION OF HUMAN WORTH

There is a place resting in the Hall of Fame for the philosopher who can frame a clever phrase that will euolgize the worth of the home-loving man who likes to smoke a pipe, has a regard for domestic animals and loves children. The advertising writers for a popular American tobacco firm point to these three characteristics as indications of sterling qualities in a man. It is pointed out that a man who is partial to these three diverse, yet not totally disconnected features of life, cannot be wholly wrong. And when we come to consider it, there is a whole lot of truth in what they say.

The Hall of Fame, though in one sense it is mythical, is reserved for those who accomplish great and spectacular things in life, those who do the unusual. And we find that the great majority of men and women pass their years on this earth without doing anything that merits unusual attention and so they are not mentioned as candidates for the Hall of Fame. The man who sits at home, smokes his pipe, while the dog dozes by the open fire place, and the children play about, isn't doing anything that would be considered good news for the front page of the morning paper. Yet he is a sterling example of one kind of man who is really famous. It is true that certain wives and landlords won't tolerate dogs in the house, and smoking a pipe is almost a sure sign of battle in some homes, yet in those sacred reserves where ultra-modern ideas haven't stifled natural inclinations, we find the old fashioned husband who enjoys the simple things of life in a simple way. And we wonder—does he not deserve a place in the Hall of Fame. At least a place certainly awaits the one who describes him fittingly.

THE PHOENIX CITY OF THE WEST

"April 18th, 1906." That date calls to the mind of the world the memory of the disaster that overtook San Francisco in the early morning hours of that day eighteen years ago. The city was practically wiped out by fire, thousands were homeless and hundreds of lives were lost, but out of the ruins a newer and greater city grew.

It is true the landmarks of the early pioneer days are gone, they exist only in the memories of those who knew San Francisco as she was "before the fire." But the spirit of the city, the city that is loved 'round the world, still lives; and it was that will of the people, ever kept strong by the refreshing breezes off the Pacific, that urged them on to rebuild their city. And nine years after that fatal spring morning, San Francisco opened her doors to all the world and acted as hostess at the Panama Pacific Exposition. The thousands who came from the four corners of the globe were amazed at what they found in the city beside the Golden Gate. There was scarce a trace of the ravages of the fire, and instead of a ruined and blackened city, they found a thriving, pulsing, modern city, with a populace actuated by the sole desire to make them feel at home. It was a wonderful achievement and a rare tribute to the people of the city of Saint Francis. But they were not content with that, it was their desire to show to the world that San Francisco was unique among the cities of the world, and on numerous occasions since the Exposition has she acted as hostess for other less notable but none the less important gatherings.

We may all take to heart the lesson that the rebuilding of San Francisco teaches. Even in the face of discouragement, defeat and disaster we should never give up. For there is a special place reserved for those who fight the battle, who do not realize that there is such a word as "defeat" and that place is high in the scale of life—it is called "success."

THE STUDENT PLAYERS

This week the first performance of "Ecce Homo" is to be given here in Oakland, and following that there will be the presentation in San Francisco. There is no doubt that those who make it a point to see the play will receive direct educational benefit therefrom, while over and above that education and enjoyment, there will be the added benefit of a deeper insight into the religious significance of the play.

The fact that the Lenten season has been selected by Brother Leo as the time for the presentation of the play is significant. In one sense it is a prayer, a prayer in dramatic form. It is true that it is "unusual," but in the novelty of the idea as well as in the intrinsic worth of the play, the spectator will find keen enjoyment, and perhaps an insight or two into the ways of life and men and things that will make his life bigger and better.

But aside from the message of the play, aside from its material value as a work of rare dramatic and literary quality, this play demonstrates the practicability of a very important phase of Catholic education. Those young men on the stage are doing the work of actors, and doing it well. In fact the worth of their efforts is so high that it looks like that of professionals in the thespian art. One of the objects of education is to give a man poise, to give him that ability to stand up before an audience and talk. And as a very practical means of obtaining that poise, the drama is used. It is not to make actors out of the students—quite the contrary in fact—but it is to give them experience in getting behind the footlights and offering a presentation to an audience. One gets experience there that is impossible to get anywhere else. The presentation of plays is one of the many practical features of the educational system of Saint Mary's, and from the point of view of the student as well as from the point of view of those who go to see the play, "Ecee Homo" will be one of the big educational feautres of the year.

"We ask advice, but we mean approbation."

—Colton

THE THEORY OF HOMER

As it is one true test of greatness to have an imitator, so also is it an indication, in the case of a literary masterpiece particularly, to find the greatness of the work questioned by casting doubt upon the reality of the author. Not so much the reality of the author as manifested in the work itself, but the reality of the author as to his life, habits, personality, and in some cases the very fact of his existence.

Every student of universal literature has come across, at some time or other, that great literary bugaboo "the Baconian Theory of Shakespeare." After looking into the facts of the case with a certain degree of earnestness we find that though the facts presented are true, it is a case of making a mountain out of a molehill. This same condition of scepticism fostered by some of the ultra-critical litterateurs exists concerning the reality of Homer.

That the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey" are two of the greatest epic poems in the whole realm of literary achievement these critics do not deny. But this faction, headed by Wolf in his "Prolegomena" find in both of these heroic works—or at least they pretend to find— defects in the plots and inconsistencies in the various parts, which from their distorted points of view would point to a plurality of authors. It is the contention of these critics that Homer did not write the poems in question; and they even go to the extent of holding that such a person as Homer never even existed. In explaining the existence of the epics the critics hold that they are the compilations of ballads and war songs of the ancients. It is their contention that these songs were gathered together by various authors and now appear as the work of one man. They hold that these songs and stories were handed down from generation to generation, being added to all of the time, until a period when they were finally put into the forms in which we now know them.

In refutation of this theory the fact may be pointed out that variations in style, diction, and method are noted in the works of most authors. That Shakespeare was great no one can deny, but everything that he wrote was not great; some of the plays attributed to Shakespeare are many, many degrees removed from the hallowed circle of greatness. Shakspeare was human, so was Homer human; and it can be readily understood that to maintain the lofty strain of greatness throughout the entire stories of the two epics was a task beyond human accomplishment. This same plea of humanity can be used to combat the questionable potency of the arguments concerning imperfection of plot.

Further we find mention of Homer as a man by reliable historians living in the days before the dawn of the Christian era. Herodotus, referring to Homer says; "he lived about four hundred years before my time." Is it conceivable that a man "who never existed" would be referred to in such a manner?

Viewing the question from a positive side we find many things that point to the reality of the author, but no one thing stronger than the sustained unity of the works could be pointed out as indicating that one mind conceived them, one soul was animated by them, and one hand wrote them.

—THOMAS KELLEY

—O—

THE MINOR WORKS OF DANTE

Had only the minor works of Dante come down to us, he would still have been the most commanding literary figure of the Middle Ages, and he would yet have marked the culmination of a grand and glorious cultured era. Thus, even though it was in the "Divine Comedy" that his genius found its fullest expression, it is imperative that we gain some knowledge of Dante's prose treatises and minor poems.

In his "Il Convito," (The Banquet) Dante spread an intellectual banquet of fourteen courses for those of his fellows who could not attain that food, knowledge, for which all mankind naturally desire. The book consists of poems which in appearance are merely of love, but under this external aspect they conceal their true meaning, for the lady of this love is none other than Philosophy herself, "and not sensual passion but virtue was their moving cause."

In its general character and in its biographical sevelations the "Il Convito" form a connecting link between the "Divinity Comedy" and the "New Life." Toward the end of the "New Life" Dante tells us that in yielding himself to the attraction of a compassionate lady, in whose sight he found consolation, he was unfaithful to Beatrice. However, in "Il Convito" we see that the compassionate lady was no living person, but she was the image of Philosophy, in whose teachings Dante had found comfort. And in the "Divine Comedy" Beatrice appears in the living form, as one with Divine Philosophy, and shows to her lover that truth which is the native desire of his soul.

"De Monarchia" derives its worth from its exposition of Dante's lofty political ideals, and its statement of the principles upon which his ideals rested. It is the noblest statement of the most exalted political dreams of the Middle Ages, and as such it occupies a most important place in the history of governmental speculation. In this work Dante confirms abstract arguments from history, proves monarchy to be the true and rightful form of government, and throughout it all raises a passionate cry for some power to still the tempest that was then raging within the confines of European political states.

What Dante did in order to acquire for the Italian tongue a position superior to the Latin, with which it was struggling for literary priority, is contained in "De Vulgari Eloquentia." And this is one of his finest and most brilliant achievements. Concerning the significance of the work, George Saintsbury says, "I am prepared to claim for it, not merely the position of the most important critical document between Longinus and the seventeenth century at least, but one of intrinsic importance on a line with that of the very greatest critical document of all history." This work of Dante's remained unfinished. It was to comprise at least four books, but for some unknown reason of the author, it breaks off in the middle of the fourteenth chapter of the second book. The unwritten portion of the second book was to treat of the sonnet and the ballad. But Dante was the first among his countrymen to put a conscious theory in the place of the irregular use of the vernacular. His "De Vulgari Eloquentia," was the first regular "Ars Poetica" for any vulgar tongue, "And thus, owing to Dante's original intellect, Italian poetry, that began latest among the Romance languages, first and almost at its commencement came to be combined with reflection and with the theory of art."

Dante was present, on one occasion, when there arose a discussion as to the place and figure of the two elements, earth and water. Then, out of his great love for truth and out of his deep hatred for falsehood, he resolved to "demonstrate the truth regarding that question, and to answer the arguments raised on the other side." This he did in "The Quaestio de Aqua et Terra," which is a work which has been undeservedly neglected, although an important scientific document, and a monument to the vastness of the genius and knowledge of the divine poet who is its author.

We must consider Dante's life and his works apart. For with his life, his works form a single unified whole, and possess a consistent development. The course of events in his life shaped itself in accordanc with an ideal, and to this ideal all of his works, major and minor, corresponded. "His first writing, in his poems of love and in the "New Life," form act to act in its presentation of his life, with just proportion and due sequence, till its climax and final scene in the last words of the "Divine Comedy."

—FELIX CUNNINGHAM.

—O—

THE LAST DAYS OF POMPEII

In reading this book, one must shake himself of his present enviroment. He must go back many centuries and focus his mind upon early Roman history —with its splendor and elaborate courts, with its gold and jewelry common to all, with its strange beliefs in the gods, and with its purely material idea of man.

As we turn page after page a style artistic and romantic weaves for us a story of the life in Pompeii, of the characteristics of the people, the structure of the houses and the intense love—both evil and good—that ruled the hearts of the principal characters. Bulwer Lytton has given us a work of lasting beauty and charm and one full of types of humanity clearly portrayed by such persons as Nydia, Glaucus, Ione, Arbaces and Apaicides.

Nydia, the poor flower girl who from her birth had never seen the light of day, had missed the grandeur of this world. But she was storing within her mind, love and hatred, sorrow and joy, that she might receive some entertainment, even though blind and in slavery. Her misfortune arouses our sympathy and we boil with rage when the old hag, who owns her, slashes her unmercifully with a strong cord. But her days were not always sad, for often she met strangers who befriended her and consoled her. It was one such friend, a gallant visitor to ever, the blind girl in a fit of jealousy gave the deadly of killing Glaucus. But Nydia frustrated Julia's plan and exchanged the poison for harmless water. However, the blind girl in a fit of jealousy gave the deadly liquid to the Athenian who swallowed about a quarter of it. Immediately he was changed into a raving idiot, and ran wildly through the streets in pain and anguish. In the meantime Arbaces had encountered Apaecides who threatened to reveal the falsehood of the Egyptian's magic. In a rage Arbaces killed the young priest. Glaucus then came upon the scene and when he saw his wounded friend he stopped to help him, whereupon Arbaces knocked him unconscious. A crowd then gathered and the magician accused Glacus of the murder of Apaecides and he was condemned to die in the arena pitted against a wild beast. His friends failed to free him, but the Word

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Pompeii, by name Glaucus, who bought the poor girl from her insane owner. He was an Athenian, rich in money and virtue. He was upright, brave and sincere, and his fine masculine spirit adds zest and pleasure to the story. He was a good mixer, for he was always surrounded by friends who saw in him a true companion. On some occasions he gambled, much to the delight of Clodius, a gambler by profession. But he was master of his emotions and never did he indulge heavily in games of chance. At that time in Pompeii the chief delight of the populace was to see wild beasts battle human beings until generally the latter fell under the terriffic force of the tigers and lions, to be mangled and torn to pieces by them—this was Pagan enjoyment, what barbarians! Glaucus was hostile to all this and he expressed his belief that beasts should fight beasts, but that men should never be sacrificed to them.

Later Glaucus met Ione, the most beautiful woman in Pompeii, who had always before her people honored in being allowed in her presence. Even from the first he recognized "the true and the beautiful" in her, and her heart returned the compliment to him. A romance as sweet and fascinating as Ione herself sprang up between them and each day their love grew stronger. But there was another who loved Ione also, who had for many months pictured her as his wife. He had gradually filled her mind with big things, hoping that she would turn from the common people to himself. When he saw that Glaucus was winning her love, he lied about him and succeeded for a time in breaking the romance of the two young lovers. This man was Arbaces, an Egyptian, very clever and very learned. But his mind was corrupt and full of evil designs, which, however, were veiled by an easy manner and and a keen wit. Already he had succeeded in getting Ione's brother to become a priest of Isis. When the brother had seen just what kind of men these priests were, he revolted and accused Arbaces of getting him into the order of Isis under false pretenses. But the resourceful Egyptian knew how to handle his pupil and so he invited him to his home on the outskirts of the city. There in a mansion filled with mystery and strange sights, the master villian dazzled Apaecides. Enchanting music together with incense and perfume, and artistic tapestry mingled with colorful lights, enveloped the room in quietness and makes one feel he is accompanying Alladin on his strange journey with his wonderful lamp. Beautiful girls appeared at Arbaces' command, and as the young priest stood awed with the spectacle a magnificent table ladened with eatables and beverage arose from the floor, and Apaecides forgot his discomfort as he partook of the banquet. In like manner Arbaeces tempted Ione, hoping in a final effort to win her love. The exquisite style of his speech, his low, soothing tones, and his skill in making his love known, thrill sus, even as it did Ione, such was its power of enchantment. But fate did not wish the magician to wed the beautiful Greek, and thus it happened that an earthquake laid him low as he was about to kill Glaucus, who had come to rescue Ione from the Egyptian's now fiendish love. The earthquake was the hand of God protecting a Pagan who entertained the new beliefs of Christianity, against a vile Polytheist who shunned the new religion. Also this earthquake was to warn the entire Roman world that their gods were false, and that the true God was He whom the slaves and Nazerenes worshipped in cellars and hidden places.

Glaucus and Ione now thinking themselves free from the plots and schemes of Arbaces enjoyed a few happy days preparing for their coming marriage. But much had they yet to suffer and awful things must their eyes yet gaze upon before they continue their life as man and wife. Even as they enjoyed life, their enemies plotted against them.

Julia, the daughter of Diamed the merchant, had hoped to win the love of Glaucus, and failing she sought revenge. Arbaces was her counsellor and he told her to go to an old witch in the mountains, from which she would get a poison for her purpose—that of killing Glaucus. But Nydia frustrated Julia's plan and exchanged the poison for harmless water. How-

DUCKY GRANT IS CHOSEN PRESIDENT AT FIRST MEETING OF BIG "M" SOCIETY

DUCKY GRANT

At the first meeting of the Big "M" Society, held on April 1st, Ducky Grant was selected as President of the Society. The other officers elected at this meeting were John Corrigan, Vice-president; Ed Lorigan, Treasurer; and Andrew Harrington, Secretary.

The Big "M" Society is composed of those men in Saint Mary's who have won their block letter for participation in athletics, and it is their purpose to engage in a series of activities, under the direction of the College authorities, that will be of benefit to themselves as well as the entire Student Body. From the interest and serious consideration of affairs brought before the gathering it is evident that some real achievements are to result from this society.

President Grant, acting upon the axiom that "there is no time like the present, appointed a committee composed of Charley Packer, Al Westlake and Thomas Kelley, to frame a constitution and present it at the next regular meeting. The members of the committee were cautioned not to attempt to frame an elaborate document, but rather one that would be flexible enough to meet the changing conditions and one that would be sufficient for the society to function on, and nothing more. The society, it was stated, is not primarily a formal body, but rather an informal gathering that is bent on doing something.

Those who attended this meeting were: Meuter, O'Rourke, Lorigan, Grant, Gardiner, Westlake, Harrington, Yore, Kelley, Conlan, Lawless, Hungerford, Collins, Knowles, Packer, Underhill, Strader, Rooney, Nelson, while Paynter and Arnold Kardoza were absent.

OAKLAND PRODUCTION OF "ECCE HOMO" TOMORROW NIGHT

Tomorrow night, at the Oakland Civic Auditorium Theatre, the first public performance of the revival of "Ecce Homo" will be enacted. The perfection attained by the cast in Wednesday's production at San Rafael speaks volumes for their interest and capability. Next Monday and Tuesday afternoons and evenings the play will be produced in the Tivoli Opera House in San Francisco. Your whole-hearted support and co-operation is necessary to make it the success which it deserves.

EASTER DUTY RETREAT LAST WEEK

In order to make it easier to fulfill the requirements of the Church, a Retreat was conducted last week for the benefit of the students. Its purpose was to secure a greater devoutness in the reception of Holy Communion during Easter time as prescribed by Mother Church. Father Cullen conducted the Retreat in a splendid manner, giving several interesting talks on the evil of sin and the efficacy of prayer.

A COMMUNICATION

Oakland, California
April 10th, 1924.

Scion of Our House:—

Though I've indicated at the heading of this letter that I am still in the city which first sheltered me when I came to this land, that heading is not quite accurate, for the fates have so shaped my life here that I have traveled. I shall explain why I appear to be writing to you from my former place of residence. I do not know just where I shall be next nor do I know how long I shall be sojourning in these removed parts of the American continent. When I return I shall expect to receive several communications at once from you.

Since last writing to you, I have been the recipient of many and diverse favors from the gods, the most important of which offered me the opportunity to see at first hand the wonders of this new Christian land. I found it expedient that I should go to one of the larger inland cities of America to attend to some details of which I shall write you later. The name of the city is Chicago. If you will refer to the map of the North American continent you will find it located at the south western end of Lake Michigan, midway between New York and San Francisco. Indeed I had no idea of the size of America until I began to traverse its vastness. In truth the ways and customs of these Christian believers are very different from our sane ways of living.

(Contnued on Page 8)

SAINT MARY'S TEAMS IN TYPING CONTEST

Saint Mary's will have two High School typing teams in the San Francisco Business Shows Typewriting contest which will be held at the Civic Auditorium on Saturday, April 12.

The first year team will consist of B. Vei, H. Veio, C. Chirstopher, T. Gilbert, M. Phelan and H. Dobbins. The second year team will be made up of A. Corsi, E. Laubacher, E. Ritchen, E. Gaynor, H. Markham, J. Illia, B. Haberle, E. Heinse, A. Wickliffe and R. Coelho.

The best typists will receive the following awards—first prize, a gold medal; second prize, a silver medal; third prize, a bronze medal.

Brother Edmund, the instructor of typewriting and coach of the two teams feels confident that his boys will bring back their share of the awards.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

The work that the High School students are doing to assure the public success of "Ecce Homo" is very commendable. Practically every student has taken a number of tickets to sell, and the number of placards that grace the store windows in the neighborhood is largely due to the zeal of the members of the High School department. The College students are doing their best to stage the play successfully, and it is most encouraging to find that the High School is working hard to have packed houses at all the performances.

Tommy Farrell has been under the weather for a few days but is around again and will soon be ready to play.

THE LAST DAYS OF POMPEII

(Continued from Page 2)

of God had come to him through Olinthus, a leader of the Nazarenes, who happened to be in the same dungeon waiting his death for blaspheming the false gods. When Glaucus was brought forth to fight the lion, strange things occurred. The lion to the surprise and astonishment of the vast throng, eyed the young Greek, but did not harm him. At the same time Vesuvius, that venerable and mysterious mountain that had been brewing a storm within itself, burst forth with great fury. Again Nydia, the blind girl appeared and lead Glaucus and Ione to safety through falling ashes and total darkness. When her task was finished she quietly ended her life in the calm waters of the Aegean Sea. Arbaces was killed by a flash of lightning as he attempted to snatch Ione from Glaucus. Finally the two there, away from idolatry and treason, they at last took up their life in peace and happiness, having embraced Christianity and having freed themselves from their villainous onemy,theEgyptian.

We have reacned the conclusion, and as we lay the book aside we feel bigger and better for we not only received knowledge of the last days of Pompeii, but also a delightful romance written in an admirable style. Throughout the book we see the seed of Christianity growing and developing with the story, reaching its height in the happenings on the last day of that great city, as it falls a victim to the eruption of Vesuvius, to give way to a new city and a new, but true, religion.

—JAMES ROBERTS.

CORDS

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Sports

JOHN CORRIGAN

STRADER HITS OFTEN AND HARD FOR THE PHOENIX

RED STRADER

Red Strader, the genial captain of the football varsity, believes that his ability to hit hard, is not confined to hitting the line with a football tucked under his arm, for on the baseball field he wields a hefty war club. Red has been alternating between catching duties and out fielding and he is well able to take care of himself in either position. And whenever he finds himself in the batting order he offers plenty of concern to the opposition because of his ability to drive out long hits.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT

Sid Snow, former catcher, more recently pitcher, and always a good sticker for the Saint Mary's Varsities of other years, was an interested spectator at the game with California last Thursday. He said that this year's team seems to have the knack of turning in the wins and he wished that he was out there in a suit helping to earn them.

Louie Guisto, baseball Coach at Saint Mary's and at present field captain of the Oakland Coast League Club, sat on the bench throughout the game. Another member of the Oakland Club watched the game from the third base line bleachers—Walter Mails. According to the pre-season dope both these worthies of professional baseball are due for the best season of their respective careers and, if good wishes have anything to do with it, they undoubtedly will.

SAINTS LOSE CLOSE ONE TO STANFORD

The Phoenix lost a hard fought game to the Stanford Varsity when the timely hitting of the boys from the "Farm" in the second inning squeezed over a run, they then succeeded in holding the Saints scoreless, and the final score stood 1 to 0. Tommy Farrel pitched a good game for the Saints except for allowing four hits in the second inning he allowed Stanford only a few scattered hits. The Varsity had men on the bags every innings but were unable to get the hits necessary to score.

Bookie Harrington poled out a long one in the ninth but was called out when he slid into third. Paynter then brushed a fast single through first that would have knotted the count and would have probably paved the way for a victory.

The Saints should have won, but the breaks were against them that day. Not in the nature of an alibi, but as a mere statement of the fact; had Harrington been called safe at third in the ninth, the Saints would have pulled the game out of the fire.

The Stanford supporters, in their account of the game characterized the Saint Mary's players as "crooked spike-wavers," and further criticized the coach and players for their attitude toward the umpire. The criticism is not just for the desire to win has never caused the Red and Blue players to overstep the bounds of diamond ethics.

LEO ROONEY HURLS VICTORY OVER SANTA CLARA

While his team mates gathered in nine runs for him Leo Rooney held the Santa Clara varsity to two tallies. This was the first of the three game series.

Beside the pitching of Rooney the other features of the game were the fielding of Paynter and Meuter and the hitting of Biggs.

With this first game safely tucked away Madigan's charges should have a comparatively easy time capturing the other two.

DIAMOND DUST

Al Westlake must have had a grudge against the California pitchers for he slammed out his four hits as though he was mad.

Louie Guisto sat on the Phoenix bench and smoked his pipe contentedly while the boys were hammering four California pitchers all over the lot.

Harrington played a snappy game in the first contest against Sacramento.

Red Strader enjoyed his visit to the Capitol City—in fact he had such a nice time that he prolonged his stay till Monday morning.

Leo Rooney gathered in a three base hit at Sacramento in order to let his numerous relatives know that he could hit.

Pat O'Rourke caught the second game at Sacramento and got by in nice style.

Ducky Grant played left field against the Senators and handled several hard hit balls in fancy fashion.

In the game against the California second varsity, Herb Copp, covered himself with fame by annexing a home run.

Arnold Kardoza will be out of the game for a while with an injured leg.

COLLEGIANS DROP SLOW GAME TO CALIFORNIA SECOND TEAM

On April 5th, Boots Tobin took his squad of ball tossers out to California field to try to take the measure of the California second team, but when the dust of battle had cleared the Red and Blue boys were on the short end of a 10 to 1 score. It is true that some of the regular Collegian tossers were absent from the line-up which in some way accounted for the defeat, but even aside from that the rest of the squad was decidedly off form.

The feature of the game was a home run drive by Herb Copp, Collegian third baseman, which found a resting place in the left field bleachers. It was a real hit that would be appreciated in any man's league.

KING DEFEATS CALIFORNIA

On April 3rd the "Great Ralph" King twirled his second win of the season over the California Varsity. This second win was a comparatively easy victory for the Saints for the boys batted in enough runs to win any game, while King held the Bears to 3 tallies. All of their runs were scored in the first inning, after which they got only two hits.

Al Westlake was the big event of the day in batting by cracking out four safe hits out of five attempts. However, Westlake was not the only Saint Mary's performer who had on batting togs. King, Biggs and Grant contributed hefty clouts that aided very materially in the scoring.

Billy Yore had to retire from the game in the sixth inning when he got one of his ankles tangled up with third base. But the injury will be only temporary as Bill expects to be out in uniform in a few days.

PHOENIX PLAN INVASION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Next month the Phoenix squad will travel to Los Angeles for a two game series with the U. S. C. nine. Following that they will go to San Diego for two more games with a San Diego Club.

As the U. S. C., nine split a two game series with Stanford recently it appears that the Saints will have no easy time with the boys from Movieland, and it will mean a tussle all the way.

PERILS OF COMMUTING

It is difficult to say just what the commuters from San Francisco would do if it were not for the parental guidance of Eddie Moran. The transbay boys are remarkably regular in attendance at class, even more punctual than many other students who have not so far to travel. Undoubtedly, Eddie has a good deal to say about that.

But there are other ways in which Eddie is showing himself to be a good leader. And it is all Eddie's fault! From the numerous perils of crossing the water, seagulls and Japanese tramps included, the commuters are consistently saved.

Wonder what the boys will do next year when Eddie will no longer be present to steer them aright?

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Sports

BILLY YORE IS ENJOYING SUCCESSFUL SEASON

BILLY YORE

Billy Yore is playing his second season on the Phoenix and this year he is demonstrating the fact that he is a real valuable man to have in the line-up. He is playing a steady game in the field and has demonstrated that he can hit, and when he gets on bases, on account of his speed, he manages to work his way around with little help.

ANDY HOUSE MAKES SENSATIONAL DEBUT IN PITCHING DEPARTMENT

Andy House recently tried his hand at the pitching department and from his first attempts it looks like he is going to be a sensation. Last week he pitched a practice game against the Varsity and did so well that Madigan decided to take him on the trip to Sacramento. In the first game against the Senators he twirled the last three innings and held the Senators hitless. This feat was all the more remarkable as the leaguers were hitting that day as evidenced by the sixteen runs they piled up against the regular twirlers.

House has a real fast ball, good control, and a curve that appears to be the best of any of the pitchers on the squad. If he gets a chance to get some experience this season it is a cinch that he will make a valuable addition to the staff next year.

TENNIS

The Prep Tennis team will meet the Santa Clara High School Tennis team on the Saint Mary's courts, Wednesday, May 7. The contest will consist of three singles and two doubles matches.

Now, both the College and High School teams have "Big Matches" to look forward to and prepare for. Both teams will practice intensively for the next three weeks and play as many matches as possible to make certain a double victory.

The College Tennis Team played the California Freshmen and Berkeley High School during the week. Although the first matches of the season for Saint Mary's, the team, all things considered, showed up well and gave the Berkeley players plenty of competition.

FOOTBALL PROSPECTS LOOK ENCOURAGING FOR NEXT SEASON.

It is a far cry to the opening of the 1924 football season, yet some of the coaches are casting their eyes over the prospects. Spring practice is becoming an established feature, and though it hasn't started at Saint Mary's this season, it is likely that the pig skin artists will soon be out for a preliminary training.

Next fall, practically a veteran squad will report to Coach Madigan and he will be able to start things off with a bang. The new men will have to hustle to learn the tricks of the Notre Dame system and once they have learned that, the old men will have to hustle to keep their jobs. That condition ought to produce good results.

With a veteran backfield composed of Conlan, Underhill, Grant, Strader and Rooney, the Saints should be able to offer a bewildering variety of attack. Speed, kicking and passing ability are all present, and too ability to buck the line is one of Captain Red Strader's strong points. Right now "Sparky" Farrell looks like a capable candidate for a berth on the squad. Last year he lacked the necessary experience, but with an understanding of the fundamentals well in mind the "champion violinist of the Fifth Floor" should break in somewhere.

A line that boasts of Corrigan, Hungerford, Lorigan, Packer, Knowles, Collins, Nelson, Lawless and O'Rourke is going to give somebody trouble.

PHOENIX LOSES TWO GAMES TO SACRAMENTO

On April 5th and 6th the Phoenix journeyed to Sacramento to engage the Coast League Club in a two game series but as it happened the Red and Blue performers were off form on both days, and they lost both games, the first 16 to 4 and the second 10 to 2.

In the first game Art Kardoza started on the hill for the Phoenix but was hit rather freely and the high north wind carried some of the drives for extra bases. The outfielders had a hard time judging fly balls due to the wind and several high ones went for hits that would ordinarily have been easy outs. King relieved Kardoza and twirled for a couple of innings till relieved by Andy House. From the Saint Mary's point of view, the twirling of House was a real feature. This was his first appearance as a pitcher and he certainly gave a good account of himself. In the three innings he worked he held the Senators to a single run which was not the result of hits, for he also held them hitless. This feat is remarkable for once a team is hitting it takes pitching to stop them from scoring.

In the Sunday game Leo Rooney pitched, but was accorded ragged support, and that together with the wind which carried long flies for hits, caused his downfall. The two Saint Mary's runs were the result of bunched hits. Westlake tripled and scored on Harrington's double for the first run. Later Rooney tagged one for three bases with Gardiner on first which accounted for the second talley.

BALLPLAYERS ANSWER EARLY MORNING CALL

The tolling of church bells for early Mass in Sacramento disturbed the slumbers of the Saint Mary's diamond stars. Pat O'Rourke heard the chimes and arose, thinking it was almost noon. He was chagrined to learn that the hour was 5:15 a. m.

SECOND SANTA CLARA GAME WILL BE NEXT FEATURE

At the Oakland Coast League grounds, Sunday, April 13th, the Phoenix will tackle the Santa Clara squad in the second game of the series. The Saints won the first contest and should win the second. But dope is often upset and the players realize this so they are going out to make assurance doubly sure.

The Saints have defeated California twice, Stanford and Santa Clara once, and have lost only one game, that to Stanford, while all the other college nines have lost more than one contest. This gives the Saint Mary's Varsity the inside track to the championship honors.

A win over Santa Clara on Sunday will make the situation so much better. It is a problem who will be selected to heave that game. King, Farrell or Kardoza should be able to handle the Bronchos easily. Rooney has demonstrated that he is their master and Madigan may select him to hurl the second game. And if Leo can exhibit the twists he had in the first game and also at Sacramento, the boys from Mission Valley will not do any heavy hitting. And last but not least by any means is Andy House—he should be able to step in and give a good account of himself on the mound.

The rest of the club is hitting well and the fielding, as usual, is excellent. The combination at second base with Harrington and Westlake playing leading roles, has proved to be one of the features of the Saints' infield work this season. Last Sunday at Sacramento, with Kopp on first base and a hit and run play up, Westlake took a sharp bounder and tossed to Harrington who threw to first base for a snappy double. A combination that catches a man of Kopp's ability in a double play is one that knows what it's all about.

These two, together with the rest of the club should prove an effective defense against Santa Clara's attack.

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ANTIQUE INTERIOR DECORATIONS ALMOST GRACE FIFTH FLOOR ROOMS

Bill O'Grady and Tim Corrigan room together, and further than that they exhibit at all times a similarity of tastes that is truly remarkable. They both have a highly developed sense of the artistic and never lose an opportunity to enhance the beauty of their room on the fifth floor by additions of furniture and tasty decorations. Knick-knacks and what-not's grace every available corner of the domicile and the only thing lacking is a complete Chesterfield set. It was to remedy this seeming defect that these two epicureans almost involved themselves in serious difficulties.

When the properties and costumes for the production of "Ecce Homo" were shipped over here from the costumers there was included a complete set of furniture of the vintage of 33 A. D. Chairs, benches, pedestals and all, approriately gilded and carved to suit the taste of the worldly citizen of Rome. Bill and Tim believe that time has no effect on real artistic worth so when they saw these fixtures standing in the hall they decided that such fixtures would enhance the comfort of their room. Just as they were proceeding to install them the property man (name withheld) came along and in a hard hearted manner ordered them to desist. Bill and Tim are sad, for they realize what an effect the antiques would produce in their room, but they have hopes.

DOPETEE; DOPETAW!

What magic power is contained in those two words which, to the uninitiated, must forever pass as an unintelligible jargon of guttural follishness! However, to those who are "in the know" they should unlock the gates of a Paradise on earth—the only trouble being that they didn't.

IN THE STANDS AT MISSION FIELD, SANTA CLARA

After having watched the Red and Blue baseball squad go through a smart hitting practice followed by ten minutes of fielding practice that earned the plaudits of the "enemy" supporters, it was certainly disheartening to see the fellows come back to the bench in one, two-three order and to watch them present Santa Clara with a run. Of course, the Red and White supporters were nearly frantic over this incident but the boys soon found the offerings of Scherf to their liking and then the merry rain of base hits began to bring joy to all the Saint Mary's rooters. During the following hour and fifteen minutes the latter had their chance to wax enthusiastic for the blue-suited boys amassed a total of nine runs before the festivities of the afternoon became a matter of history.

Carl Schnell, formerly a mainstay on the pitching staff of the Phoenix, was an interested spectator at this game. Carl only regrets that, to use his own expression, he "did not have a fling at this Santa Clara team." Dick Driscoll, ex-'24, also enjoyed the game.

SPANISH GENTRY IN OUR MIDST

We have heard with much pleasure that Boots Tobin, the demon captain of the Collegians, has been fully recognized for his sterling work on the diamond. He has been officially knighted by the Spanish government, and now struts the fancy appelation of Don Tobin, with a very special emphasis on the last syllable. The great wonder of the whole affair is the fact that, during the entire ceremony(and it was considerable) in which the Don received his great honor, he did not blush more than once—because the ONE lasted throughout the performance.

GEORGE WHITE, FORMER STUDENT SUCCUMBS TO SERIOUS ILLNESS

Friends of George White, first baseman of last year's Phoenix were shocked to hear of his sudden death on Sunday, April 6th.

George had been a student at Saint Mary's for a number of years and was one of the most popular men taking part in athletics at the College. His ability as a ball player won the approbation of the fans as he always played hard and consistently to win.

His funeral was held Tuesday morning from the Parish Church and a representative group of Saint Mary's men attended to pay their respects and to offer their prayers for their departed companion.

INTEREST DISPLAYED IN SHAKESPEARIAN PRODUCTIONS

The Shakesperian performances given by Robert Mantell at the Columbia Theater in San Francisco during last week and this, have been well attended by students of Saint Mary's College.

At each performance there were at least one or two Saint Mary's men, while the productions of "Richelieu" and "King Lear" drew a large number.

The attendance of Saint Mary's students at these excellent performances shows that among the members of the college department there exists a genuine interest in the drama, in art, and in the greatest of all writers, William Shakespeare. In the brusque but effective language of the street, "they know a good thing when they see it."

In keeping with the tremendous increase in the appreciation of good books which has shown itself very perceptibly among the college students within the past year, the number of private libraries has multiplied, and the extent of those already existing has swollen considerably. There was a time when it was the usual thing to hear a student say, "Why buy a book?" But no more. In contrast with that puerile attitude, the general spirit today is to buy as many good books as one can afford, and, as a compliment to that, to read those which one cannot purchase. From a casual observation it may be noticed there are many Saint Mary's students who possess private libraries. Due encouragement should be given to their laudable practice, both as tribute to themselves and as examples to others who are not yet interested in good literature.

A meeting of the Poetry Club was held on Tuesday evening, March 25, Mr. Hagerty presiding. Due to a short period of inactivity on the part of the club members, no contributions were criticized. Instead, the conversation swiftly developed into a discussion of various educational questions, including the variety of attitudes taken by students toward their work, and the shortcomings and tendencies of modern American systems of education. After a subject for the next poem to be written was agreed upon, the meeting was adjourned.

"A real find" is the way the Phoenix supporters look upon Andy House as a twirler. If he doesn't make a reputation for himself this year he is a cinch to star next season.

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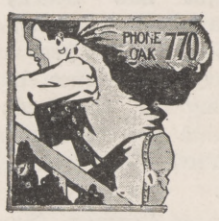

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Drama

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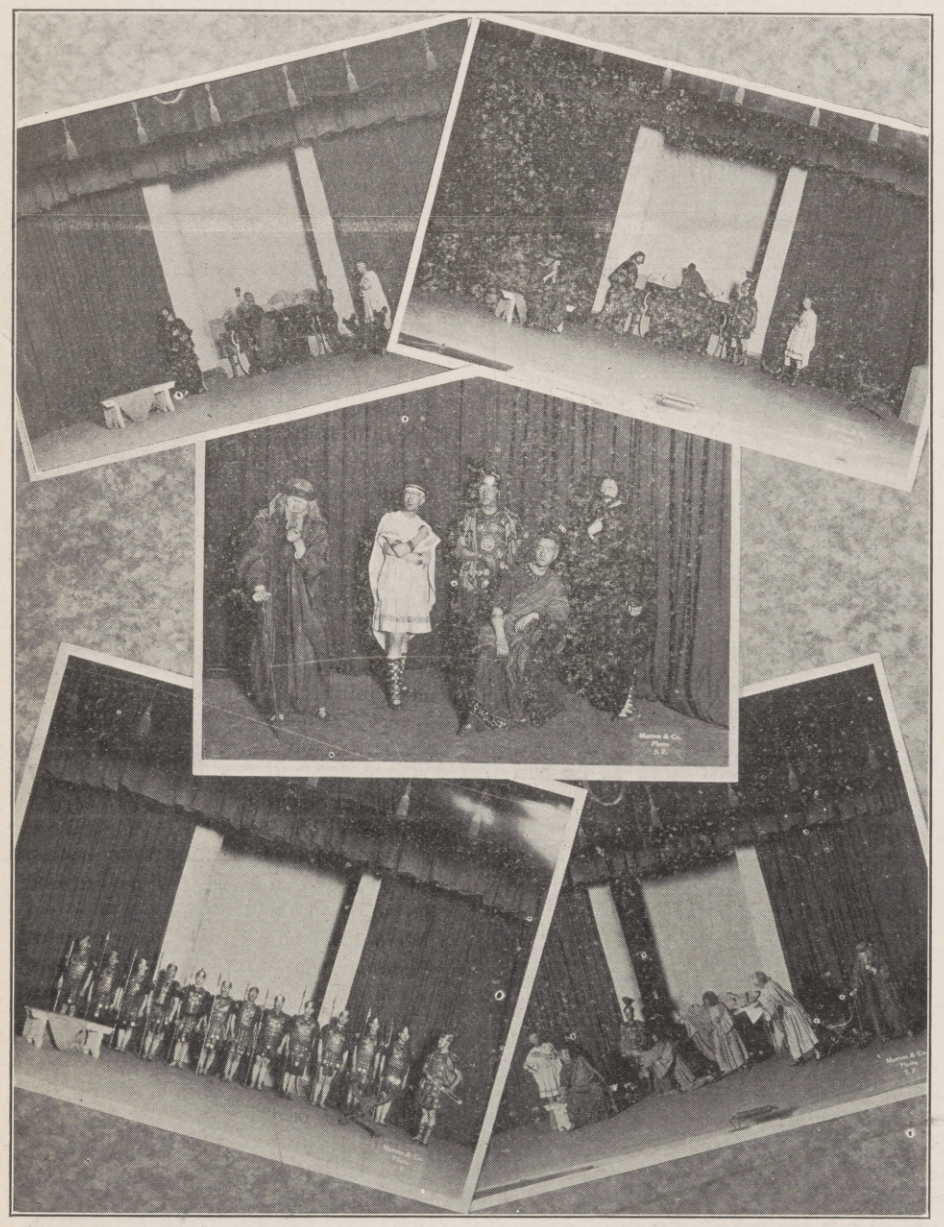
SCENES FROM "ECCE HOMO"



PLAY OF "ECCE HOMO" IS MERITORIOUS PRODUCTION

From the opening words, "If the sun would only come out," to the last, "The Sun is shining on the Hill of Skulls," Brother Leo's passion play "Ecce Homo," controls the interest of the audience. The deep significance of the metaphoric "Sun," at first escapes the observer but as the play proceeds the beautiful comparison is seen with increasing illumination.

The Jews had been waiting for the Redeemer, the Messiah, the Son of God to come and open the gates of heaven which had been closed to them since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Daily He had been prayed for in the Temple, wise men and heavenly enlightened patriarchs had prophesied His coming even to the year and place. Great preparation had been made for the advent of The Christ among these creatures of the earth. Yet when He appeared only a chosen few were endowed with the extraordinary grace to believe, and they at times were exposed to the torture of great doubts. What cruel irony, what a perfect example of human arrogance. Here was the Son of God, the long expected Savior right in their midst, clothed in man's flesh, subject to men's passions and temptations and performing the miracles that had been foretold by the prophets of old. Miracles which all the Jews knew were to be enacted with the coming of their King. In spite of all this they scoffed at Our Lord's teachings, accepted these evidences of Divine Power as impositions and with fiendish delight condemned, scourged, crowned with thorns and crucified Him upon a wooden cross between two lowly thieves. Yes, man, a detestable worm of the earth whose life is but the flash of a second in the inestimable space of eternity, put to death with brutal cruelty, their king and Savior. He Who is eternity itself. Oh! what infinite mercy did the Master show when He did not blot the very existence of mortal being from the universe for so terrible a crime.

All the spirit of this is brought out by Brother Leo with great dramatic emphasis and clearness. Although the personages of Christ and His Blessed Mother never appear upon the stage the audience is consistently reminded of them. The plot of the play is woven about the Nazarene, Whose presence dominates the actions of each of the characters in a different way. The Aristotelian unities of time, place and action are adhered to closely but in such a manner that the interest of the audience is held until the drop of the final curtain. There is only one scene in the play and that is on the roof of Pilate's house in Jerusalem with the Hill of Skulls looming up in the distance. The time of the action is on the first Good Friday morning.

Dramatic simplicity characterizes "Ecce Homo," throughout. Most Passion Plays tend toward the theatrical and the ostentatious. A great number of characters are used, several different scenes are presentd and elaborate settings are lavishly displayed. Brother Leo has done away purposely with all of this and in deep contrast we find that this "Dramatic Contemplation of Passiontide," is simplicity itself. The one scene is ordinary and commonplace, only a few characters take part and the costumes are plain but appropriate. Sensational dramatic climaxes and spectacular effects are intentionally avoided but yet the dramatic quality is not impaired in the least.

The devotional character of the play is such that Archbishop Hanna has authorized it to be played during Holy Week. Without a doubt anyone who has the fortune to witness a performance of this Passiontide Play will come away with a soul inspired to a greater Faith. We may go further and say that "Ecce Homo," is a practical lesson in religion.

The Play is in truth a psychological study of three men, all of whom come under the influence of the Christ. Pilate represents the man who would believe but for his wordly ambitions. In the Nazarene he sees a just man but at the words of the infuriated mob informing him that if he releases Jesus he is no friend of Caesar, he falters. Since it is of great advantage to Pilate to be in the good graces of the Emperor he lets the dictates of his conscience go unheeded. He tries to shift the blame of the crime upon the angry mob but he realizes that he is the one who has the power to release the Nazarene. Because of his love of power he condemns this guiltless Man to a shameful death.

In Prodicus we see the worldly wise man, a taster of life and a philosopher. He also sees in the Nazarene a man unjustly prosecuted and in a half hearted fashion he endeavors to influence Pilate to release this Prisoner of the people. His great desire to gratify his senses, however, keeps him from openly giving up all of his possessions and joining the ranks of the Redeemer. The Character of Prodicus may be advantageously compared with that of our present day "man about town."

Salathiel, the old Jewish doctor (and in spare moments, money changer) is a perfect example of the man who places the occupation of amassing riches above all others. He also sees the evident truth of Christ and would gladly follow Him if he could do so and still retain all of his gold pieces. Jesus says that to follow Him a man must sell all of his worldly possessions and give the money to the poor. This is not to the old Jew's liking for he can not see any good in giving away all that he possesses merely to join forces with a man who may be nothing more than a miserable hoax.

The character of James portrays belief of a poor fisherman. He believes in the Nazarene and follows Him for no reason other than it appears to him to be the right thing to do. Crude, pathetic and deeply emotional he catches the sympathy of the audience at once.

Longinus presents to us a character of a man who, in his heart, would willingly release Christ but since he is a soldier he can do nothing but sympathize with the Nazarene and murmur dire predictions to himself. When Longinus asks the question, "What if he is the Son of God?" he strikes the keynote of the great uncertainty in the minds of his associates.

The cast of the play has been well chosen. Brother Leo has devoted a great deal of time to the selection of his actors and after looking over the names we may rest assured that these men will do their utmost in the coming productions to bring greater honor and glory to the name of Saint Mary's College. Claude T. Silva,, a member of the Senior Class has been awarded the leading role of Pilate. In this character last year he proved a great success. During his stay at Saint Mary's he has taken part in various plays and has steadily developed into an actor of no mean ability. This will be his last chance to appear in college dramatics. No doubt he will be at his best and great things may be expected from him.

The cowering, mercenary Salathiel will be portrayed by John P. Brock, also a member of the Senior Class, one of last year's cast and a veteran actor. This is perhaps the most difficult character in the play to enact and great credit is due Mr. Brock for the masterly way in which he delivers himself of this imposing task. During the past two weeks, Director Hagerty has been drilling Brock upon the fine points of character acting and we may expect nothing less than professional work from him.

David H. Wynne, a member of the Junior Class, in the part of Prodicus, the worldly wise philosopher will come as a great surprise to most of us. He has not appeared in any titular role before but Brother Leo noting his splendid improvement during the past semester has picked him as the logical man for the position. Mr. Wynne has a fine voice and a stage character which smacks of more than a amateur. Who knows but that we have another Bacon in the making?

Ignatius R. McVay, makes the part of James become a real, living character. This role of a simple, trusting fisherman was in Mr. McVay's hands last year and the fact that he has been chosen again to uphold the part speaks for itself. A voice of fine emotional timber coupled with a rare historic ability makes for a combination rarely found in amateur actors.

"Ecco Homo," will be presented in Oakland at the Civic Auditorium on Friday, April 11th, afternoon and evening and in San Francisco at the Tivoli Opera House on Monday and Tuesday, April 14th and 15th, afternoon and evening.

The cast of characters is as follows:

Pilate.....Claude T. Silva
Prodicus .....David H. Wynne
Salathiel .....John P. Brock
James .....Ignatius R. McVay
Longinus ....Louis G. Conlan
Nephthalim..... Owen L. Murray
David .....Floyd J. Regan
Esdras .....Walter N. Kelly
A Sentry .....Gerald P. Martin
A Slave .....Josepr F. Imperial

The Procurator's Guard: Gerald P. Martin, Sam W. Dutart, Robert F. Farrell, Sylvester L. Kelly, Owen L. Murray, George B. Palmer, Walter N. Kelly, Louis J. DaMassa, Stephen W. Driscoll, Daniel J. Murphy, James T. Underhill, Ray L. Knowles.

Alumni

FRED G. SUTHERLAND

THOMAS G. ALLISON

News has been received from Thomas G. Allison, '18, who is now acting as instructor in the Ferndale High School, that he is getting along admirably in the north. "The Collegian" as well as his many friends about Saint Mary's is indeed pleased to learn of his success. Recently a production of "Richard III" was offered by the dramatic club of the High School under the direction of Mr. Allison, and the newspaper accounts indicate the endeavor was a splendid success.

GEORGE ROTENKOLBER

George Rotenkolber, '23 has departed for the Middle West where he is to continue his engineering work along practical lines. George informed us that his address in the future would be Gary, Indiana; and that he would be in the employ of the American Bridge Company there. It was with the idea of getting a practical knowledge of that part of his profession that deals with steel structures that George decided to leave the Golden State for a time. However, he will not be too lonesome there for Jack Neff, another member of the '23 Class is also in Gary.

BERT V. DUNNE alias "Don Glenton"

Bert Dunne, Ex-25, is at present in the law school at the University of Notre Dame, and he reports that he is doing fine. Besides getting along well in his studies he says that he is having a good year in athletics, being a member of the Varsity baseball team. While at Saint Mary's Bert cavorted as an outfielder, but now he has turned his attention to first base and has met with success. During the Easter Vacation he will make the trip south with the team and will visit the more important cities of the southern states.

DR. J. MAHER

Dr. Maher, A. M., '02, for 33 years physician at Saint Mary's has retired from active service. He is succeeded by Dr. Fitzgibbon, a former student of St. Joseph's Academy, Berkeley, Calif.

FRANK E. MICHEL

Frank E. Michel, '00, of Sacramento, in his capacity of State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus, makes frequent visits to the Bay Cities where he meets many former students of Saint Mary's College.

Humor

VINCENT J. STREI

The new night watchman at the Observatory was watching someone using the big telescope. Just then a star fell. "Begorra." he said to himself, "that fella sure is a crack shot."

* * * *

The new seal had arrived at the zoo. All the inhabitants thereof crowded around the newcomer and gazed on him in wonder.

"Did they send you in a baggage car?" ventured the stuckup porcupine.

"No, no," was the answer. "I'm a box car seal."

* * * *

Sam—What am you doin' now

Bo—I'se an exporter.

Sam—An exporter?

Bo—Yep, the Pullman Company just fired me.

* * * *

Squire—Did you send for me, my lord?

Launcelot—Yes, make haste. Bring me the can opener; I've got a flea in my knight clothes.

* * * *

"Something I ate, no doubt," remarked the circus fire eater as he suffered a touch of heartburn.

"What are you buying?"

"A thermometer."

"Why? You won't need a thermometer until summer."

"They're always lower in winter."

* * * *

"Were the soldiers returning from France happy?"

"Happy! Why, man, they were in transports."

* * * *

"If I only had a golf club," sighed the convict as he looked at the ball on the links.

* * * *

"Do you know how the rats get in here?"

"Naw!"

"Uh-huh.'

* * * *

Judge—Twenty days for vagrancy, lock him up, Dan.

Prisoner—But, your Honor, I am not as corrupt as Swift, as dissipated as Poe, as depraved as Byron, or as pervert as—

Judge—That will do. Get the names of those other fellows, Dan, and bring them in. They're a bad lot.

A COMMUNICATION

(Continued from Page 3)

First I secured the necessary credentials and documents to insure my passage on the railway from Oakland to Chicago. I was told that it would take three days, but I thought that meant a leisurely trip with generous stops at stated intervals for meals and a comfortable sleep in a hostelry at night. And imagine my surprise when I boarded the train and learned from the functionary in charge, a courteous African who spoke a peculiar accent that was quite unfamiliar to me, that one slept on the train and had all meals served in the car provided for that purpose. I was astounded, for though I understood that the Americans had many comforts for traveling because of their mechanical ingenuity, I did not imagine for a moment that their inventions had reached such an unheard of stage. The meals served on the train were delightful, though I found the novel experience of eating while traveling along at sixty miles an hour rather hard to reconcile. However, as eating appeared to be the most important event of the day to the American traveler who is on such a journey, I accepted the custom and enjoyed the offerings of the culinary department as much as possible.

As you may well imagine I was intensely interested in viewing the scenic wonders that were presented to me on either side of the conveyance, which by the way is called a "Pullman Car." And incidentally, each car has a name, though in truth the names were totally unfamiliar to me and I could see no connection between them and the cars. Each car looked essentially alike to me though the names each one of which was different, apparently meant something. I questioned several fellow travelers on this point, but they, like myself, were wholly ignorant of the significance of the names. But as I was telling you, my interest was mainly centered on the fleeting landscape that unfolded itself before me. We passed over several mountain ranges, and were at one time actually in the land of snow. But as the cars were well heated I did not suffer from the rigors of the climate.

Next we passed over what is known as the "American Desert." It is a vast stretch of land, with few signs of habitation and scarcely any sign of vegetation or animal life, and the monotony of the scene was broken only by the snow-capped mountains rising out of the horizon on the south. During the second day we passed beyond this arid district into a more fertile and pleasant country that abounded in vegetation and animal life. I was told that we were in the Missouri River country, I found this more interesting than the desert but still it was monotonous too, and it was with bated breath that I awaited my arrival at my destination.

However, before telling you of my experiences there, I shall go back and recount to you, my illustrious brother, the peculiar experience I had upon retiring the first night on the train. About two hours after dinner, the African entered our car and began going through mysterious rites, apparently dismantling the car, dragging pillows, covers, and long green curtains out of nowhere in particular. At first I thought it was a crude attempt at amusement such as I have seen practiced in the vaudeville theatres of this strange land. There I had seen magicians take rabbits, gold fish and ducks out of a silk hat, much to my astonishment. So I thought the functionary was attempting the same thing, but it developed that he was preparing the sleeping quarters. I was assigned, as he indicated to "Lower seven." There are two beds in each section, and upper and a lower, and the long green curtain drops down in front of each which insures privacy while one goes through the acrobatic feat of disrobing while sitting down in the cramped space. And the mystery which as yet remains unsolved is how the corpulent gentleman, obviously of Hebrew extraction, who occupied the compartment above me, was able to get in and get out, and most of all how he ever divested himself of his clothing. I meant to ask openly how he did it, but my natural modesty forbade that.

I must refrain from writing further at this time, but I have many things to tell you in subsequent letters, so for the present I'll cease with the hope that all fares well in the land-of-things-as-they-should-be. I am

Devotedly yours,

MENCHOIE.

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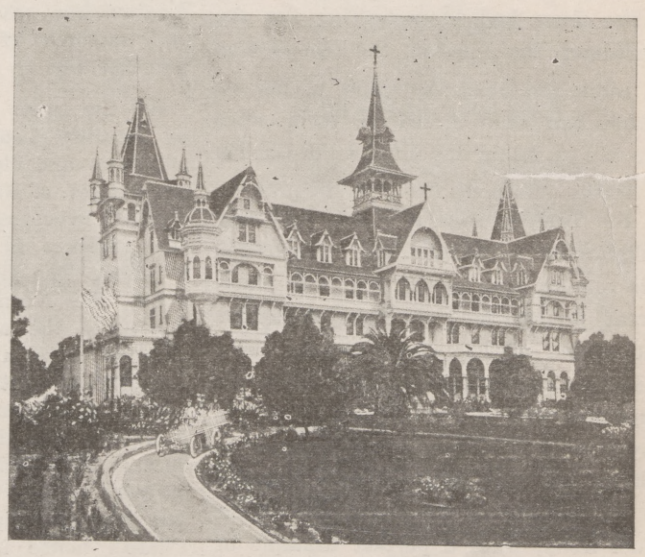

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